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Appl. No. To be assigned

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the abstract and insert the attached substitute abstract after the claims.

## ABSTRACT

A reduced-wear sealing element, in particular for cylinders and pistons for reciprocating compressors, made at least in part from a self-lubricating plastics material; such a material comprises a wear-resistant polymer matrix, in which are dispersed microcapsules containing a lubricating agent.